



Department of
**Neighborhood
& Business
Development**

Uplifting Our Neighborhoods

Northwest

Quarterly

Volume 1

December 2009

Areas of Interest in your Quadrant:

- Dentzel Menagerie Carousel
- Frontier Field
- High Falls
- Jones Square Park
- Maplewood Rose Garden
- Ontario Beach Park
- Marine Park
- Susan B Anthony

Introducing Your Quadrant Team Members:

- Jose' Cruz
- Doug Benson
- Luis Burgos
- Anne DaSilva Tella
- Michael Dobbertin
- Alisa Gillan
- Tim Hubbard
- Peter Leach
- Tom Mann
- Shelley Matthews
- Suzanne McSain
- Lauren Nelson
- Telana Nieves
- James Schirmer
- Michael VanMeenen
- Carmen Verzillo
- Carol Wheeler

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What's Happening With Zoning ?

On the December Zoning Board of Appeals' (ZBA) agenda in the Northwest quadrant was a use variance application for 122 Lyell Avenue to legalize a change from a store and 3 apartments to a store and 4 apartments, which was conditionally approved. Last month the Zoning Board approved a use variance re-request for 55 Clay Avenue to re-establish a 2 family dwelling. It also approved an area variance for the Maplewood YMCA to construct a 14,860 square foot addition to their

existing facility. In December the City Planning Commission (CPC) approved a special permit request for 425 Ames Street to establish a K-4 charter school for Uncommon Schools, Inc in the former Church of the Holy Family. Also a special permit was approved for 245 Mt. Read Boulevard to establish out-door storage of equipment and bulk materials for a proposed landscaping company. In November, the CPC granted a special permit for a sit down restaurant

(Dark Horse Café) at 1180 Dewey Avenue. It also granted a live entertainment license to 1604 Lyell Avenue, and to 421 and 423-425 River Street. Also approved in the Northwest quadrant was an ancillary parking garage at 525 Beach Avenue and a residential care facility at 1020 Maple Street.

JOSANA Planning

The team has been asked to participate in the planning process of a few upcoming projects in the Northwest quadrant. The first is the co-ordination of various projects within the JOSANA area.

There was an effort by the United Way to gather all of the project sponsors some months ago, but the effort ended up stalling. Some of the key project sponsors were recently called together to develop a formal planning effort that will address the desires of the residents realistically — using resources that are actually available in the area.





City Neighborhood CAP Studies Underway

The City's Bureau of Planning and Zoning is currently completing circulation, access and parking (CAP) studies for the Brown Square and Susan B. Anthony neighborhoods, both within the Northwest quadrant. The Brown Square CAP study is investigating parking issues associated with Frontier Field and the soccer stadium (Marina Auto Stadium), as well as

pedestrian circulation and access issues through the neighborhood to High Falls and the Genesee River Gorge.

The Susan B. Anthony CAP study is investigating SBA House visitor and tour-bus parking. It also addresses trail development and pedestrian travel to adjacent neighborhoods and to downtown.

Steering committee and public informational meetings will be held in the neighborhoods in early 2010 to review data and proposals.

Final reports for both projects are expected in early spring, 2010. The projects are being funded by grants from the Genesee Transportation Council.



Rotary Club of Northwest to host Mardi Gras

The Rotary Club of Northwest Rochester is having a Mardi Gras party to raise much needed funding for non-profit agencies in the Literacy Zone. The community organizations include Charles Settlement House, Grace Urban Ministries, YMCA on Driving Park Avenue, Edgerton Recreation Center, Sisters of Notre Dame Reading Center, and the Rochester Public Library. The money

raised will support after-school and summer literacy projects. 97% of adults over the age of 16 who reside in the Literacy Zone read at level two (5th grade) or below. Many of these people have difficulty filling out job applications and cannot help their children with homework. Every library in the area has literacy tutors who work with children on their homework. We are all trying to help Mayor Duffy

to fulfill his goal of becoming the "most literate mid-sized community in the country". We are following the Rotary Club slogan of giving of your "time, talent and treasure". You do not need to be wealthy in order to support the literacy movement.

Empowering Sector Leaders

The NSC administrator and other staff members attend numerous community meetings and are bombarded by reports of drug use and sales, troubled youth and gang activity, problem businesses, and other nuisances. The Northwest Quadrant Team has been working directly with sector leaders in an effort to stream-line communication and response. Our hope is that by empowering sectors they will be able to better manage these issues on their own by developing a plan to address them. Such a plan would include the Team's resources and authority to address the issues. Sector leaders have also met directly with the administrator on several occasions to enhance community leadership. The dialogue has addressed, among other things, how leaders can help each other to increase membership and work effectively with many groups at one time.

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Your Sector

Leaders:

Sector 1:

Rich Miller

Brian Labigan

Sector 2:

Mike Coniff

Chris Tillet

Sector 3:

Dawn Noto

Tim McGrath

Rotary Club of Northwest to host Mardi Gras

The Rochester Knitting Guild and Karen Cudzila knitted over three hundred scarves, hats and mittens for children in Northwest Rochester. The hand knitted clothing, along with a book, were handed out at the Charlotte, Maplewood, and Lyell Libraries, and to the Brown's Square Neighborhood Group, during the **Bundle Up with a Good Book!** Program. The Literacy Movement, with the assistance of librarians, donated books. This program has been going on for the last 3 Decembers and those wonderful knitters have clothed 1,000 children in winter gear and have placed 1,000 books in homes.



Upcoming Events:

March 2010:

Rochester City Living Sunday's

Westside

March 28, 2010

12:00 Noon – 4:00 pm

Theodore Roosevelt School # 43

1305 Lyell Avenue

For more information, visit www.citylivingsundays.com

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